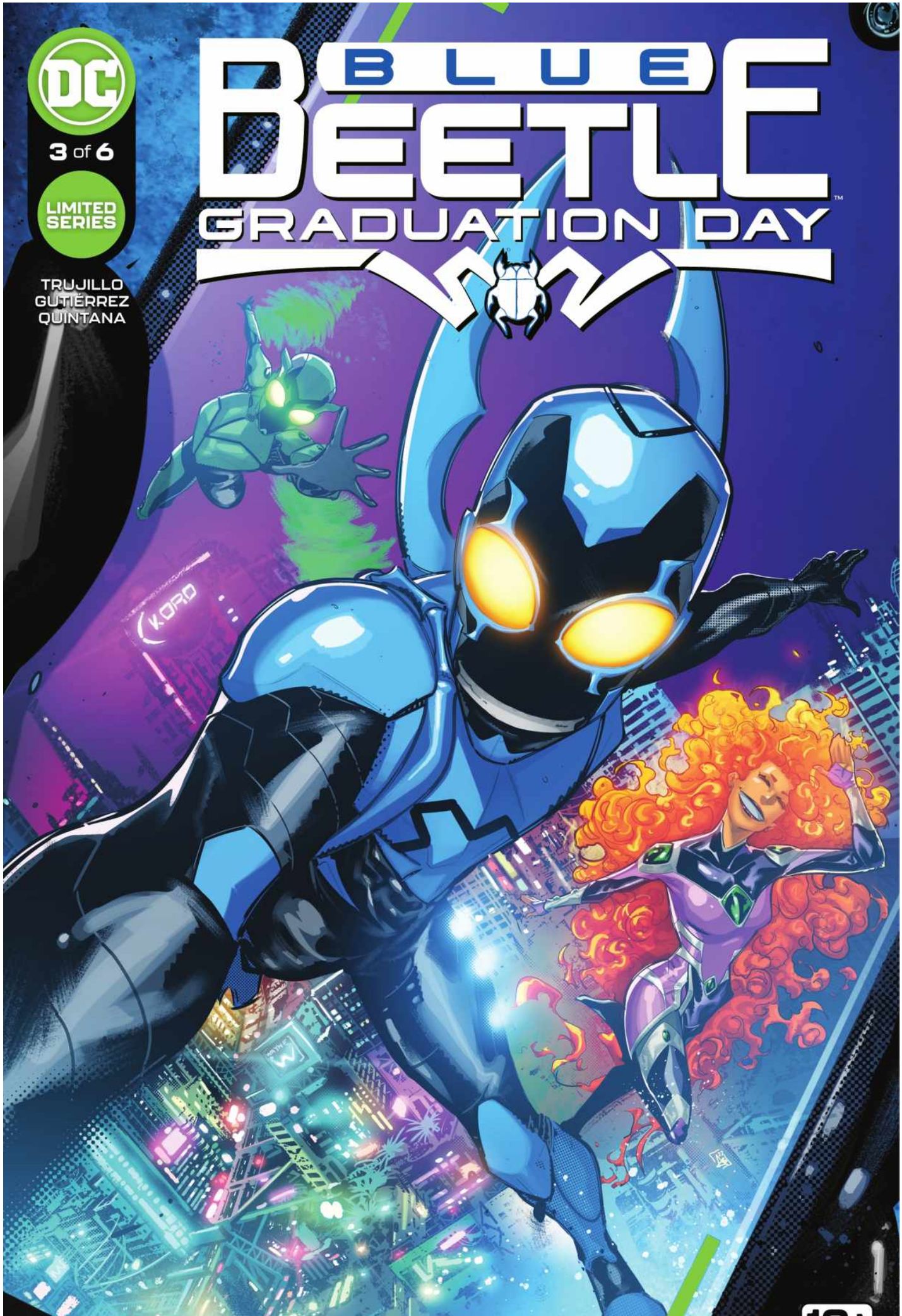
DC
3 of 6
LIMITED SERIES
TRUJILLO
GUTIÉRREZ
QUINTANA
BLUE
BEETLE
GRADUATION DAY
KORD

CELEBRATE BLACK EXCELLENCE ACROSS THE DC UNIVERSE!
DC BLACK HISTORY MONTH
DC POWER
A CELEBRATION
A 100-PAGE ONE-SHOT
OF ALL-NEW STORIES FROM COMICS' TOP ARTISTS AND WRITERS
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WRITTEN BY
CHUCK BROWN, MORGAN HAMPTON, STEPHANIE WILLIAMS, EVAN NARCISSE, BRANDON THOMAS, LAMONT MAGEE, JORDAN CLARK, AND MORE
ART BY
VALENTINE DE LANDRO, CLAYTON HENRY, PETTERSON OLIVEIRA, NATACHA BUSTOS, CHRISCROSS, ALITHA MARTINEZ, DARRYL BANKS, AND MORE
DC

LAYERS OF INFORMATION...!
A FORM OF ENCRYPTION THAT SIMPLY DOESN'T EXIST ON OUR PLANET.
THERE'S SOMETHING MORE TO THE REACH'S BROADCAST...
BUT WHAT IS IT?
I COULD SPEND MONTHS TRYING TO PARSE WHAT IT ALL MEANS.
WE DON'T HAVE MONTHS.
BATS! I WAS WONDERING IF YOU WERE GOING TO PAY ME A VISIT.
HOW DO YOU LIKE THE NEW LAB?
WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT DYNASTES? ANOTHER REACH SCARAB. DOES IT POSE AN INCREDIBLE RISK TO EARTH?
I'M, UM, WORKING

SHE'S POWERFUL--SCARY POWERFUL. HER POWERS ARE DIFFERENT FROM JAIME'S. SUPER-STRENGTH, HEIGHTENED DURABILITY... SHE'S A TANK WITH LEGS AND SHE'S INCREDIBLY FOCUSED ON JAIME.
BUT WE HAVE THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL. WE'RE MAKING SURE SHE CAN'T GET ANYWHERE NEAR HIM.
GOOD. WE NEED TO KEEP THOSE TWO APART. JAIME'S SCARAB, KHAJI DA, WAS CREATED TO CONQUER OUR WORLD. IT'S ONLY THROUGH LUCK IT COULD BE CONVINCED TO DEFEND EARTH.
WELL, THAT'S NOT FAIR TO JAIME. IT WASN'T JUST LUCK--
DO YOU UNDERSTAND HOW SERIOUS THIS IS, TED?
AS YOU KNOW, I'M THE WORLD'S FOREMOST EXPERT ON THE REACH AND THEIR TECHNOLOGY.
ME.
SO YEAH. I HAVE A CLUE.
JAIME WAS UNDER STRICT ORDERS TO LIE LOW, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE ENCOURAGING HIM.
HE'S NOT A KID ANYMORE, BRUCE.
IF THINGS CONTINUE TO ESCALATE, I'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GET INVOLVED.
YEAH, YEAH.
YOU CAN DO YOUR DISAPPEARING ACT NOW. I'LL KEEP YOU IN THE LOOP.
HMPF!
THE NERVE OF THAT GUY SOMETIMES...

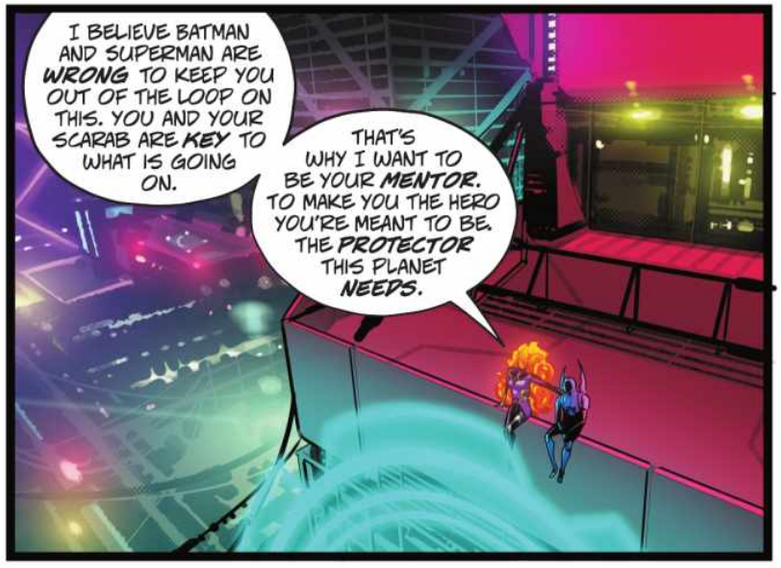
WOW!
PALMERA CITY IS GORGEOUS AT NIGHT, JAIME! IT IS NOTHING LIKE SAN FRANCISCO!
THAT'S GREAT AND ALL, STARFIRE, BUT WHAT ABOUT THE REACH? WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
THAT STRANGE TRANSMISSION SPOOKED EVERYONE. IT SEEMS LIKE SUPERMAN, TED--EVEN BATMAN--ARE WORRIED ABOUT AN INTERSTELLAR INVASION!
BUT THE REACH ARE MORE CLEVER THAN THAT!
THEY TEAR CIVILIZATIONS APART FROM THE INSIDE. THEY MANIPULATE WORLDS SO THE PLANETS BEG TO BE CONQUERED.
WHY WOULD THEY SEND A WARNING?
WE HAVE THE SMARTEST PEOPLE IN THE UNIVERSE WORKING ON THIS.
WE'RE GOING TO FIGURE IT ALL OUT.
BUT WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT IS YOU.
ME?

I MEAN...
...I HAVE TO ADMIT I'M... SCARED.

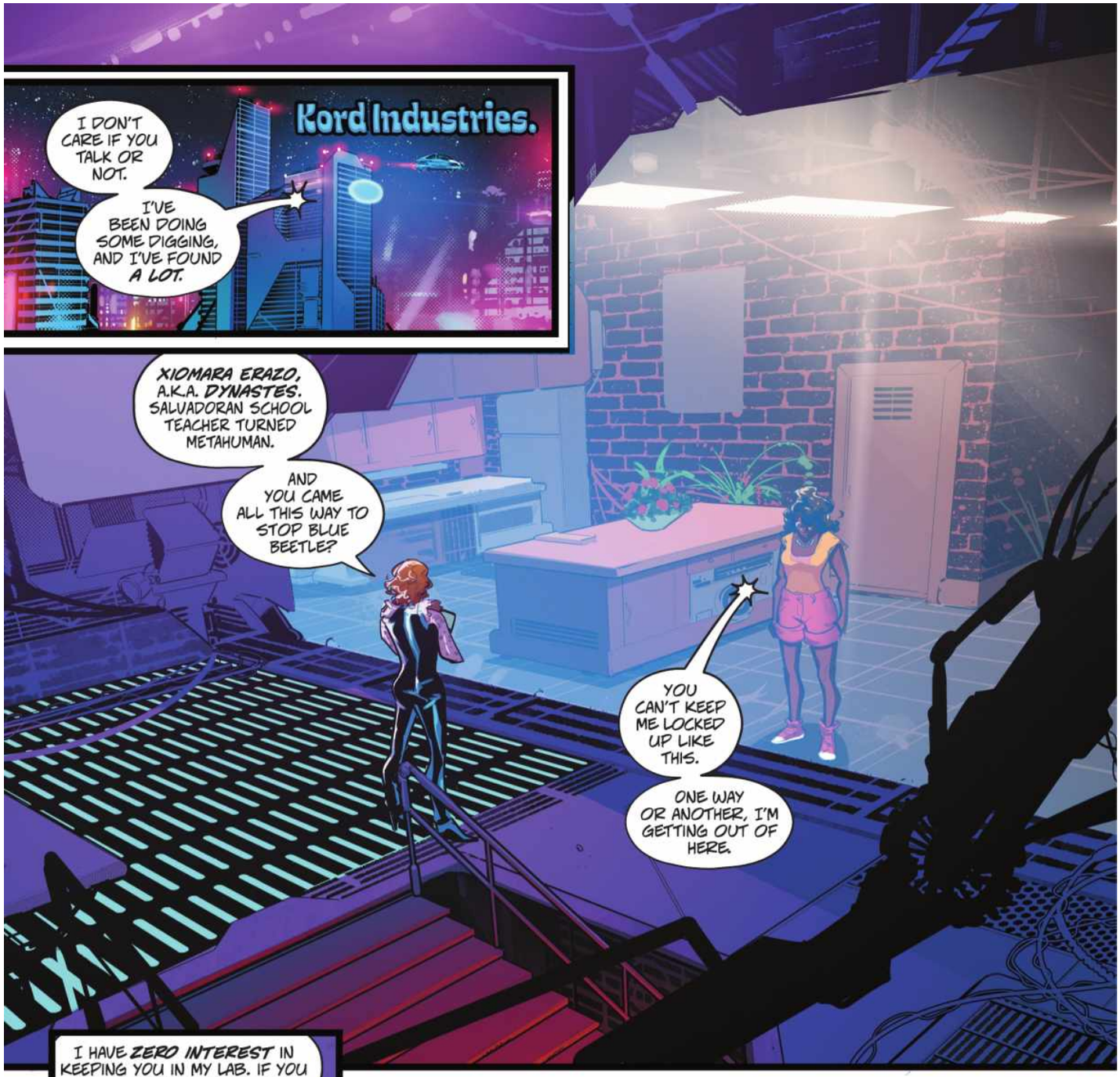
I'M SCARED OF WHAT THE REACH ARE CAPABLE OF--WHAT I'M CAPABLE OF.
I'M NOT ENTIRELY SURE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

...THERE'S A NEW BEETLE OUT TO DESTROY ME, AND I BARELY SURVIVED THE FIGHT.
WAS SUPERMAN RIGHT TO GROUND ME? MAYBE THIS ISN'T A FIGHT I'M READY FOR. I CAN BARELY TRUST MY OWN ABILITIES ANYMORE...
YOU'RE MORE THAN CAPABLE, JAIME.
EVERYONE KEEPS SAYING THAT, BUT... I DON'T REALLY BELIEVE THAT'S TRUE.

IT'S OKAY TO HAVE DOUBTS.
I'VE SEEN THE GREATEST OF HEROES OVERCOME THEIR DOUBTS, THEIR FEARS, AND COME OUT STRONGER FOR IT.

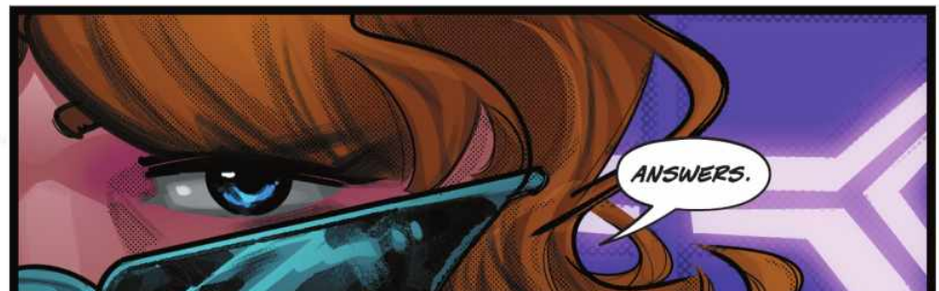

I BELIEVE BATMAN AND SUPERMAN ARE WRONG TO KEEP YOU OUT OF THE LOOP ON THIS. YOU AND YOUR SCARAB ARE KEY TO WHAT IS GOING ON.
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO BE YOUR MENTOR. TO MAKE YOU THE HERO YOU'RE MEANT TO BE. THE PROTECTOR THIS PLANET NEEDS.

AND I'M NOT GOING TO LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU.


Kord Industries.
I DON'T CARE IF YOU TALK OR NOT.
I'VE BEEN DOING SOME DIGGING, AND I'VE FOUND A LOT.
XIOMARA ERAZO, A.K.A. DYNASTES. SALVADORAN SCHOOL TEACHER TURNED METAHUMAN.
AND YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY TO STOP BLUE BEETLE?
YOU CAN'T KEEP ME LOCKED UP LIKE THIS.
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE.

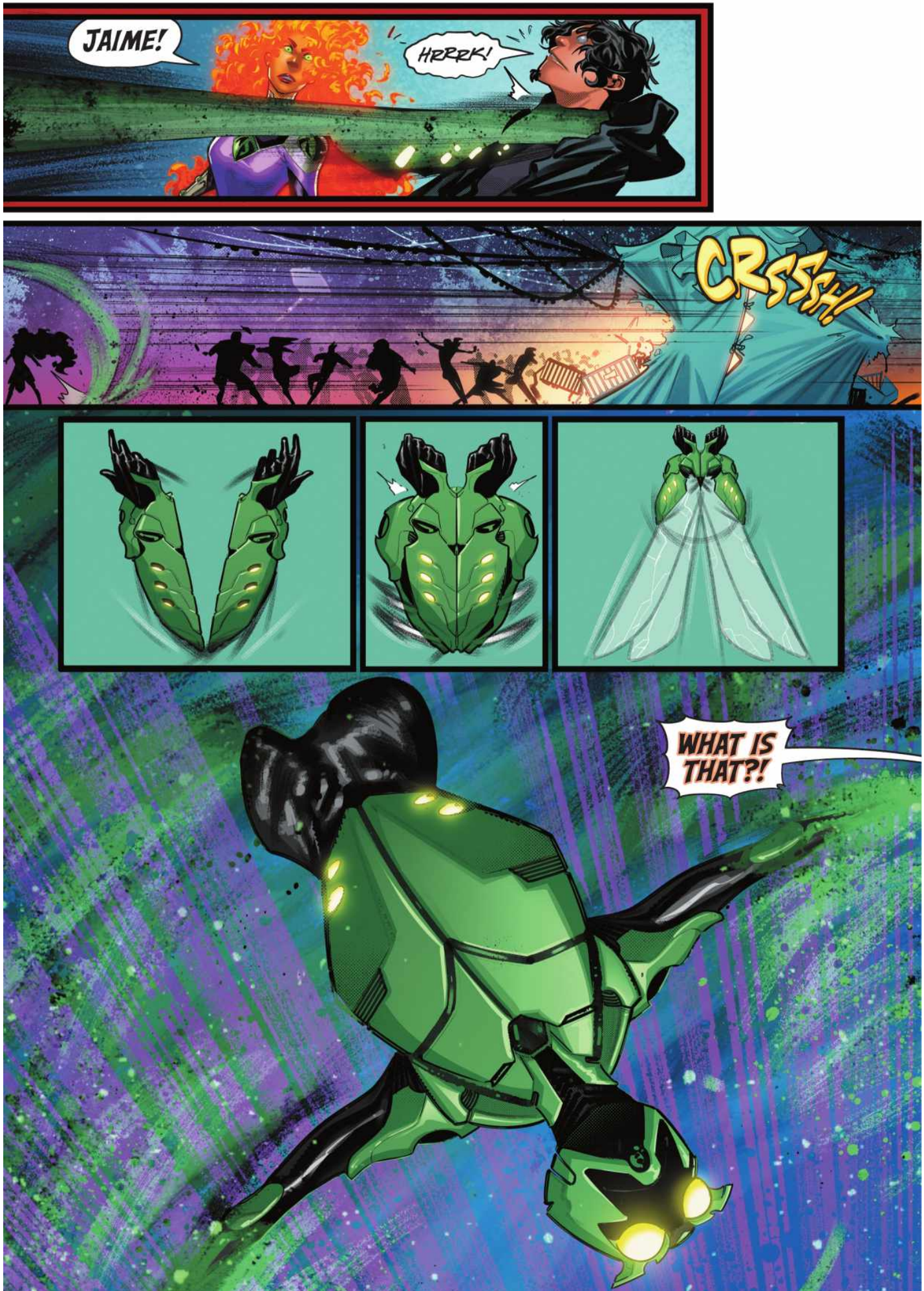
I HAVE ZERO INTEREST IN KEEPING YOU IN MY LAB. IF YOU COOPERATE, I'LL LET YOU OUT OF HERE.
I HATE CLUTTER.
JUST GIVE ME THE ONE THING I NEED...

WHUMPAZZAT


ANSWERS.

=SIGH= LIKE YOU SAID, I'M JUST A TEACHER FROM A SMALL TOWN IN EL SALVADOR. I WAS HAPPY WITH MY LIFE... I ALREADY HAD A PURPOSE BEFORE THE BEETLE FOUND ME AND CHANGED MY LIFE.
I'D NEVER EXPERIENCED ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE. NEW EMOTIONS. NEW POWERS. FOR THE FIRST TIME I FELT CONNECTED TO SOMETHING MUCH GREATER THAN MYSELF. SOMETHING COSMIC.
FATE CHOSE TO GRANT ME THESE ABILITIES, TO SAVE OUR PLANET. TO SAVE ALL OF US.
I WON'T GIVE UP HUNTING BLUE BEETLE. WHATEVER IT TAKES, I'LL STOP HIM.
AND WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT CAUSE? SMASHING BLUE BEETLE INTO A PANCAKE?
HE AND HIS SCARAB ARE A SUPERHERO, SO BY MY REASONING THAT MAKES YOU...?
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT SCARAB IS CAPABLE OF.
DON'T WORRY. I'M KEEPING AN EYE ON HIM TOO. I PROMISE I'LL GET YOU OUT OF HERE ONCE THE REACH HAS BEEN DEALT WITH, AND YOU NO LONGER POSE A THREAT TO BLUE BEETLE.
BUT I DO HAVE ONE LAST QUESTION NAGGING AT ME...

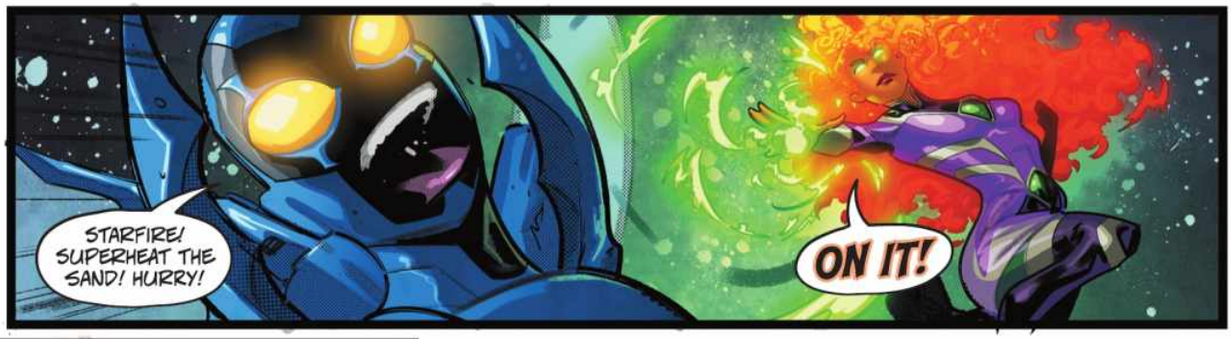
"...ARE YOU ALONE?"
YOU AND I HAVE MUCH IN COMMON, JAIME REYES.
YOU KNOW I HAVE A SECRET IDENTITY, RIGHT?
MY OWN POWERS COME NOT FROM MY TAMARANEAN LINEAGE, BUT FROM CRUEL EXPERIMENTS PERFORMED ON ME AND MY SISTER AS CHILDREN.
MY FAMILY WAS WORRIED THAT WITHOUT THEM WE WOULD NOT GROW TO BE WORTHY HEIRS TO THE EMPIRE.
IT TOOK YEARS OF TRAINING AND STRUGGLE AND LOSS TO COME TO OWN WHAT HAD BEEN GIFTED TO ME! TO ACCEPT IT...
¿PARA TI, HERMOSA? VEINTICINCO. PERO ESTOY DISPUESTO A NEGOCIAR.
THIS IS LOVELY! HOW MUCH?
HE SAID IT'S 25 BUCKS. AND I THINK HE'S FLIRTING WITH YOU.
IS HE NOW?
YOU KNOW, YOU'RE VERY SWEET.
DO YOU MIND IF I...?
¿TIENE UNA TALLA MÁS GRANDE?
¡MUCHÍSIMAS GRACIAS! SE LO AGRADEZCO MUCHO.
POR SUPUESTO, PRECIOSA. DÉJAME TRAERTE UNO.
HOW DID YOU...?
ONE OF MY GIFTS IS TO LEARN ANY LANGUAGE THROUGH TOUCH.
OKAY, BUT KISSING IS A LITTLE AGGRESSIVE, DON'T YOU THINK?
ASHJI!
ASHJI!
ASHJI!
ASHJI!
AGGGGUU


JAIME!
HRRRK!
CRSSSH!
WHAT IS THAT?!

BLUE BEETLE! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M FINE, JUST A LITTLE, UH...
OW.
WE NEED TO DRAW THEM AWAY FROM THE CROWD.
RIGHT!
WHAT'S WITH ALL OF THESE OTHER BEETLES AND THEIR CHEAP SHOTS?
VRRVRRRRRRR!
IF YOU WANT A FIGHT, COME AND GET IT!

SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?
I WILL LEAVE THAT FOR YOU TO DECIDE!
CONSIDER THIS YOUR VERY FIRST LESSON--
STRATEGY!
YOU HEAR THAT, KHAJI DA?!
WE'D BETTER COME UP WITH SOMTHING FAST!
ALL RIGHT. THEY CAN STRETCH, SHAPE-SHIFT, AND HAVE THOSE WING-BLADE ARM THINGS. THINK. THINK!
WHOA!
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING ANYMORE, KHAJI DA...
SHINK!
...BUT I THINK I GET IT!

THWOK!
THERE WE GO!
SPPFFF!

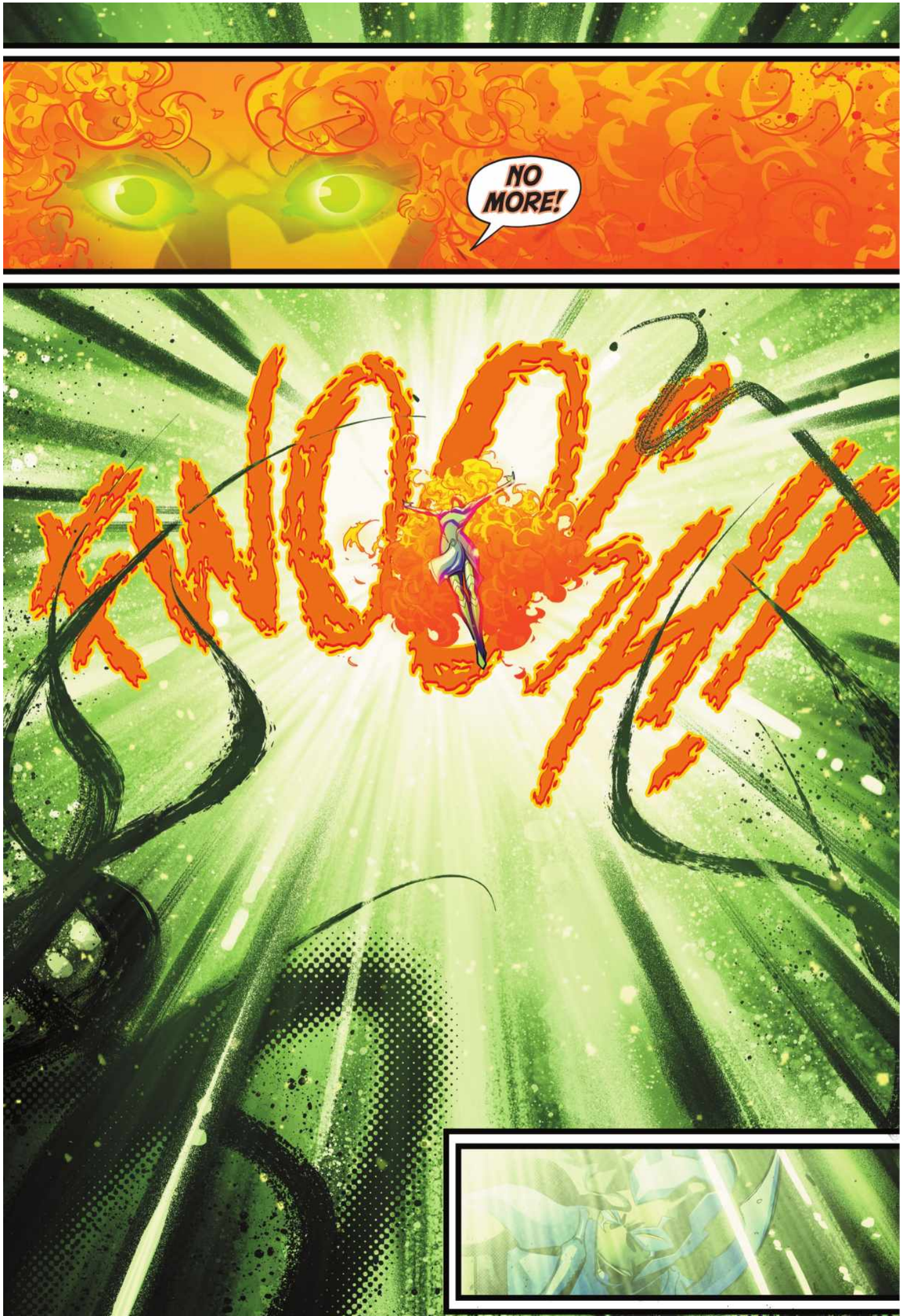

STARFIRE! SUPERHEAT THE SAND! HURRY!
ON IT!

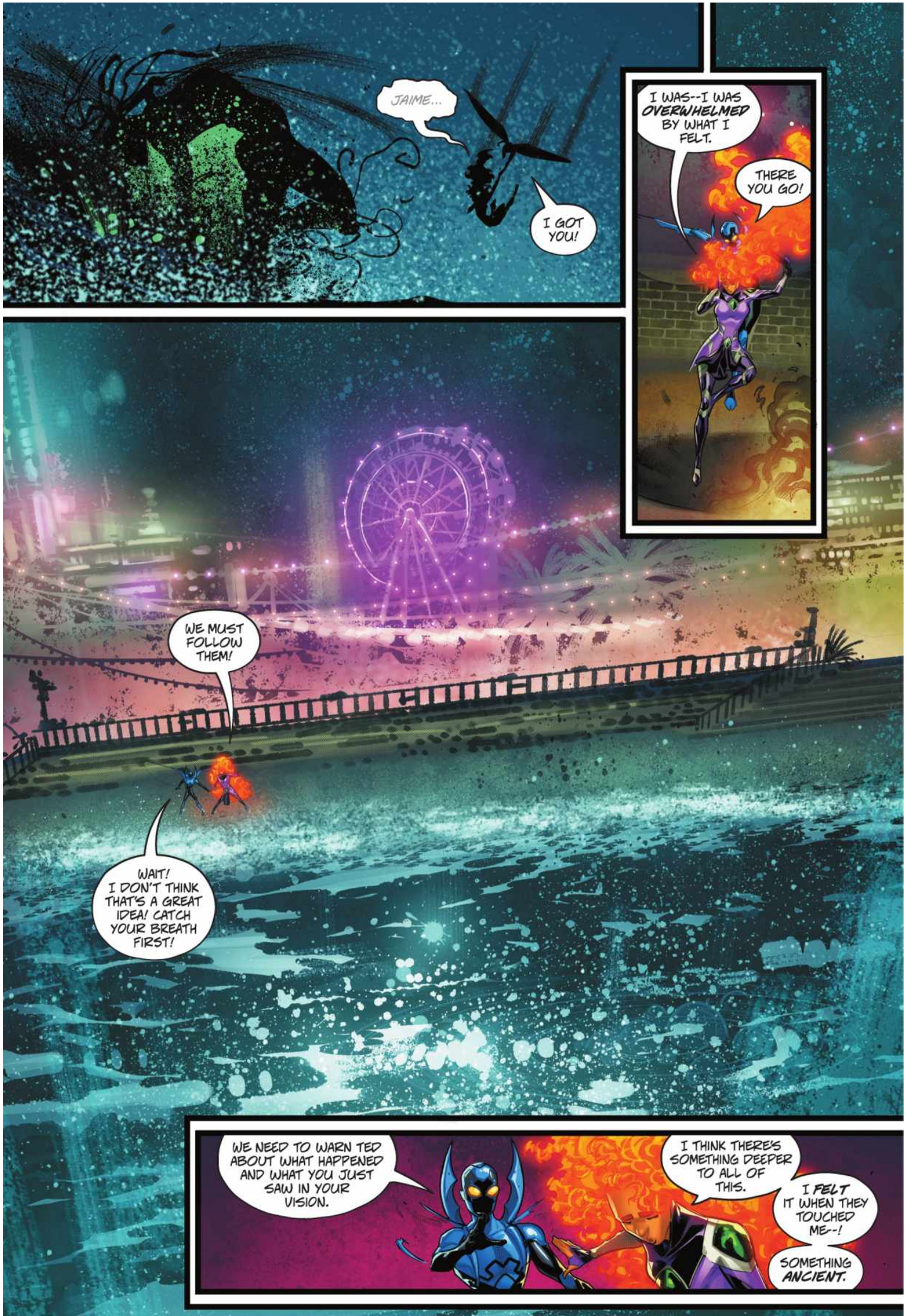
FLASSHH!
DID THAT... ACTUALLY WORK?
REMARKABLE!
NOW TO LEARN THE SECRETS OF

WAIT, WHAT ARE THEY...
NITIDA!
OKAY, I COULD NOT HAVE PLANNED FOR THAT!
X'HAL!

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW, JAIME?
BEETLE-- FOCUS!
THERE'S NOWHERE YOU CAN RUN FROM US.
YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SURRENDER.
I DON'T THINK-- I CAN'T--!
WHAT? NO! STARFIRE!
DON'T WORRY...
I AM READY!

OF COURSE!
A HISTORY CONTAINED IN A LOST LANGUAGE!
"I KNOW THIS STORY WELL... A LEGEND FROM MY YOUTH. BUT IT NEVER HAD A NAME UNTIL NOW.
"CENTURIES AGO, THE REACH FOUGHT A DEADLOCKED WAR WITH MY PEOPLE, THE TAMARANEANS.
"THE REACH WERE CONQUERORS, BUT NOT A MONOLITH. MANY REACH RESISTED THIS WAR, WHILE OTHERS FLED INTO THE UNKNOWN.
"THE TAMARANEANS HELPED THESE REFUGEES ESCAPE!
"THEY WERE KNOWN AS...
"...THE HORIZON!
"A PEOPLE WITHOUT A HOMEWORLD. A CIVILIZATION ON THE RUN. A MISSING PIECE OF THE PUZZLE.
"A SWORN ENEMY OF THE REACH!"


NO MORE!
ENOUGH!!


JAIME...
I GOT YOU!
I WAS--I WAS OVERWHELMED BY WHAT I FELT.
THERE YOU GO!
WE MUST FOLLOW THEM!
WAIT! I DON'T THINK THAT'S A GREAT IDEA! CATCH YOUR BREATH FIRST!
WE NEED TO WARN TED ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED AND WHAT YOU JUST SAW IN YOUR VISION.
I THINK THERE'S SOMETHING DEEPER TO ALL OF THIS.
I FELT IT WHEN THEY TOUCHED ME--!
SOMETHING ANCIENT.

"SOMETHING FORGOTTEN.
"I THINK I KNOW WHY THE OTHER BEETLES ARE HERE.
"THESE BEETLES ARE THE ADVANCE GUARD HUNTING FOR REACH TECHNOLOGY, JAIME!
"HUNTING YOU.
"THEY'RE HERE TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR THE HORIZON.
THE HORIZON ARE COMING TO EARTH!

VICTORIA!
THERE'S BEEN ANOTHER BEETLE SPOTTED DOWNTOWN.
ANOTHER?
YOU DON'T SAY...
MEET ME IN MY HANGAR IMMEDIATELY! WE'RE LEAVING IN FIVE MINUTES.
DON'T WORRY, XIOMARA. I WON'T BE GONE LONG.
I REALLY DO HATE FIELD WORK.
BUT DESPERATE TIMES, I SUPPOSE...
WELCOME, VICTORIA.
BEEP!
TP
TP TP

A SECOND ALIEN INVADER ON THE LOOSE IN MY CITY?

QUITE FRANKLY, IT'S RUDE.

NOW WE JUST HAVE TO FIND THEM...

I NEED TO CHECK THE TITANS ARCHIVES. THEY CONTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT MY HOMEWORLD THAT MIGHT BE RELATED TO THE HORIZON.
WELL, MAYBE WE WAIT FOR WORD FROM TED AND VICTORIA SO...
BZZ BZZ
HM?
HEY, MAN, HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?
PACO? NOW'S NOT A GOOD TIME...
PUT JAIME ON SPEAKER!
WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO PALMERA CITY!
OH? THAT'S, UM...GREAT, BRENDA!
IT'LL BE REALLY GOOD TO SEE YOU BOTH. I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND ONCE I'M DONE DEALING WITH THIS, UH, SITUATION.
WELL, THAT'S THE THING. WE'RE NOT COMING TO VISIT.
YEAH, MAN! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

AY DIOS. ¿AHORA QUÉ?
IT'S REALLY NICE OF YOU GUYS TO DRIVE ME OUT TO PALMERA.
UH...OF COURSE. YOU DIDN'T EXACTLY GIVE US MUCH OF A CHOICE.
YEAH, UM, WHO DOESN'T LOVE A ROAD TRIP?
I JUST HOPE YOUR FRIEND CAN HELP ME.
JAIME, WAS IT...?
GRADUATION DAY
CHAPTER THREE
JOSH TRUJILLO WRITER
ADRIÁN GUTIÉRREZ ARTIST
WIL QUINTANA COLORIST
LUCAS GATTONI LETTERER
GUTIÉRREZ AND QUINTANA COVER
JOE QUINONES VARIANT COVER
CHOKOO!, DANNY MIKI, AND IVAN PLASCENCIA 1:25 VARIANT COVER
ANDREW MARINO EDITOR
KATIE KUBERT SENIOR EDITOR
NEXT: FADEAWAY!

FORGING THE FUTURE ONE HERO AT A TIME
A YEARLONG STORYTELLING INITIATIVE
DC
DAWN OF DC
NEW EPIC SERIES
NEW CREATIVE TEAMS
NEW BATTLES TO FIGHT
ART BY DAN MORA

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

DAWN OF DC

DC is embarking on a yearlong storytelling event, Dawn of DC. Following the events of *Dark Crisis on Infinite Earths* and DC Universe: Lazarus Planet, the world's superheroes have emerged from the biggest, most devastating battles of their lives and are reinvigorated in their fights against evil. With bold new directions for DC's biggest characters, Dawn of DC is an easy entry point for both lifelong readers and those picking up a comic for the first time to dive into the new stories.

"After the near-Multiverse-ending events in *Dark Crisis on Infinite Earths* and DC Universe: Lazarus Planet, the DC Universe will be heading toward the light," said DC publisher and chief creative officer Jim Lee. "With brand-new series and story arcs from some of the top creative members in comics, Dawn of DC is one of our most ambitious initiatives ever and is a chance for us to tell bigger and bolder stories across our line."

MORE THAN 20 NEW COMICS SERIES WILL LAUNCH THROUGHOUT 2023—HERE'S A LOOK AT THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR!

JANUARY 2023

Action Comics #1051

FEBRUARY 2023

Superman #1

MARCH 2023

Adventures of Superman: Jon Kent #1

Unstoppable Doom Patrol #1

Harley Quinn #28

ARIL 2023

Green Arrow #1

Superboy: The Man of Tomorrow #1

MAY 2023

Batman: The Brave and the Bold #1

Cyborg #1

Shazam! #1

JUNE 2023

The Penguin #1

Steelworks #1

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